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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/IB 03/02002

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 C01G31/02

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 C01G

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, CHEM ABS Data, INSPEC, COMPENDEX

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 02 04353 A (ROHRMANN BODO RUDIGER ; DORMEHL ANDRIES GERARDUS (ZA); HIGHVELD STE) 17 January 2002 (2002-01-17) the whole document ---	1-6
A	US 5 368 762 A (MAGOME KO ET AL) 29 November 1994 (1994-11-29) column 5, line 41 example 1 ----	1-6

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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
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- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

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- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
- *Z* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
14 August 2003	01/09/2003
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5318 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040. Tx. 31 651 epo nl Fax. (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Rhodes, K

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Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
WO 0204353	A	17-01-2002	AU	6776901 A		21-01-2002
			WO	0204353 A2		17-01-2002
			ZA	200105584 A		22-05-2002
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			AU	641873 B1		30-09-1993
			DE	69305905 D1		19-12-1996
			DE	69305905 T2		10-04-1997
			EP	0566019 A1		20-10-1993